Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04
NSC-05 SS-15 /078 W
----------220742 126481 /21
R 220720Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9471
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 3991

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, KS, VS
SUBJECT: KOREANS IN SAIGON

1. KOREAN EMBOFF ADVISED FEB 21 THAT VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES INVITED HEAD OF KOREAN ASSOCIATION IN SAIGON LAST WEEK TO VISIT THE THREE KOREAN DIPLOMATS INCARCERATED AT CHI HAO PRISON SINCE SHORTLY AFTER TAKEOVER IN 1975. HE DID SO AND FOUND ALL THREE IN REASONABLY GOOD HEALTH.

2. SOURCE SAID KOREANS WERE ENCOURAGED BY THE INVITATION, FIRST ONE EVER RECEIVED, AS OPPOSED TO NORMAL ROUTINE OF MAKING REQUESTS TO THE VIETNAMESE TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE DIPLOMATS. THEY HOPE THAT DIPLOMATS MAY BE RELEASED IN A FEW MONTHS, ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT CERTAIN THEY HAVE ANY TANGIBLE BASIS FOR THINKING THIS OTHER THAN FACT THAT KOREANS AND FAMILIES CONTINUE TO BE PERMITTED TO LEAVE SAIGON. TWO MORE KOREANS CAME OUT TWO WEEKS AGO, LEAVING ONLY 60 KOREANS AND FAMILY MEMBERS IN SAIGON, FOUR FAMILIES OF WHOM ARE EXPECTED TO DEPART FEB 24. IN FIELD OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION, NUMBER OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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292 FAMILY MEMBERS OF KOREAN PRINCIPALS NO LONGER IN COUNTRY HAVE OBTAINED EXIT VISAS, AND KOREAN EMBASSY EXPECTS THAT THEY WILL BE PASSING THROUGH HERE IN NEAR FUTURE, PARTICULARLY DURING MONTH OF MARCH.
BURKE

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXIT VISAS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 3269294
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: KOREANS IN SAIGON
TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, PINS, KS, VS
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